

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of increasing the lifespan of osteoblasts in a bone-containing host in need of preventing bone loss or stimulating bone formation, wherein the host is currently being treated with one or more glucocorticoid compounds or the host is experiencing adverse bone effects resulting from contact with one or more glucocorticoid compounds, comprising the step of:  
administering therapeutically effective dosages of at least 10 micrograms per kilogram body weight of isolated parathyroid fragment wherein said parathyroid fragment is parathyroid hormone (1-34) to said host.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said administration is systemic, oral, intravenous, nasal spray or inhalation.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said host is a human.